

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT : Long-Range Funding for Fiscal Years 1965 - 1968

1. The following concepts of activities and operations were considered in forecasting OSA's long-range funding requirements.

a. IDEALIST - The IDEALIST Program will continue to operate throughout the entire five year period, engaging in 60 missions per year. [redacted]

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[redacted] staging capability at Edwards with four aircraft. The three remaining aircraft will be stationed at Lockheed Aircraft Corporation for systems testing, replacement for rotational aircraft maintenance and the third as a backup operational asset.

b. OXCART - The OXCART Program will reach an operational peak in FY 1965 and continue with an average of 60 operational missions per year. Modification and development will continue, not only on the airframe and engines, but also with improvements on sub-systems including cameras, [redacted]


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[redacted] Operational support of OXCART should allow for two permanent installations outside the Zone of Interior as well as the five pre- and post-strike staging bases now planned. Provision should also be made to permit the modification of two aircraft to be staged from and recovered by a U.S. Navy carrier by FY 1965.

c. TAGBOARD - The TAGBOARD drone and related systems will be developed by FY 1965 and put into operation during the latter part of that year. Should the drone project and related systems prove operationally feasible, a squadron of drone

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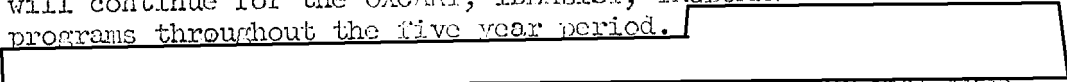
launchers will be organized in the beginning of FY 1966 to support 25 drones staging from operational bases throughout the world. Modification and improvement of systems will continue through FY 1968.

d. ADVANCED MANNED RECONNAISSANCE VEHICLE. Feasibility studies for an advanced manned reconnaissance vehicle will commence in FY 1965. Development of the follow-on vehicle to the OXCART Program will produce a prototype system in FY 66, with initial procurement of ten vehicles during FY 1967. This follow-on program will be operated from a permanent base within the territory of the United States.

e. FOLLOW-ON SATELLITE SYSTEM. Feasibility studies for a follow-on satellite which will permit actual covert launch, orbit and recovery will have been completed by FY 1965 and production commenced. Operation of this system will commence by FY 1966 permitting 24 launches annually beginning in FY 1966. Launching will be capable from submarines, surface vehicles or static launch pads.

f. PROCESSING. Conventional photographic processing will continue for the OXCART, IDEALIST, TAGBOARD and satellite programs throughout the five year period.

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Processing of the exotic or unconventional type will initially rest with the contractors who develop each system until FY 1966 when processing may or may not be consolidated into a governmental or contractor facility. Research and development for all types of reconnaissance sensing systems will continue throughout the five year period.

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2. Forecast.



3. Itemization regarding the funding forecast is attached.

JACK C. LEDFORD
Colonel, USAF
Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

Attachment
As stated

Materialization:
Apr 1, 2, 3 - 100%
4 - 25/100
5 - 25/100
6 - 25/100
7 - 25/100
8 - 25/100
9 - 25/100
10 - 25/100

4/11/63 [Redacted] (15 Apr 63)

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